

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8761
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UNCLAS GENEVA 5348

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: UNDP AORG OCON
SUBJ: 24 UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: FREQUENCY AND TIMING OF FUTURE
SESSIONS (ITEM 15)

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, COUNCIL DECIDED
TO EXPERIMENT WITH A SINGLE ANNUAL SESSION STARTING IN 1978
AND AUGMENTED BY A THREE-DAY MEETING IN JANUARY AT UN HEADQUARTERS
TO DISCUSS INTERALIA COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMS. ANNUAL
SESSIONS WILL ALTERNATE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND GENEVA. TIMING
IS EXPECTED TO BE JUNE.

2. FREQUENCY AND TIMING OF FUTURE GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSIONS
WAS ADDRESSED ONLY BRIEFLY IN PLENARY WITH NO OPPOSITION
EXPRESSED TO MEETING ANNUALLY RATHER THAN SEMI-ANNUALLY AS HERE-
TOFORE. NEW YORK VENUE WAS SUPPORTED BY PERU, KUWAIT, UK, AND
INDIA. SIERRE LEONE (RAPPORTEUR) PRESENTED DRAFT DECISION
CALLING FOR REGULAR ANNUAL SESSIONS IN GENEVA SUPPLEMENTED
PROVISIONALLY BY THREE-DAY MEETING AT HEADQUARTERS IN JANUARY
TO EXAMINE AND APPROVE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS. VIGOROUS INSISTENCE
UPON GENEVA VENUE WAS SUPPORTED ONLY BY GUINEA.

3. INFORMAL WORKING GROUP CHAIRED BY RAPPORTEUR FOCUSED UPON
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NORDIC AND SWISS POSITIONS. LATTER, AFTER EARLIER CONSULTATIONS
WITH INTER VALIA USDEL, AMENDED SIERRE LEONE DRAFT TO PROVIDE FOR
SESSIONS ALTERNATING BETWEEN GENEVA AND NEW YORK. NORDICS,
ORIGINALLY HOPING TO CONFINE SESSIONS TO UN HEADQUARTERS, FINALLY
ACCEPTED SWISS AMENDMENT BUT INSISTED THAT FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
BE IN NEW YORK.

4. SURPRISINGLY LITTLE DISCUSSION DEVELOPED ON ISSUE OF INTERIM OR AD HOC MEETINGS. DRAFT DECISION INCLUDES PROVISION FOR THREE-DAY MEETING AT UN HEADQUARTERS IN JANUARY. INDIA PREFERRED NO INTERIM MEETINGS BUT CONSENSUS FAVORED JANUARY MEETING AS PROVISIONAL MEASURE. FRG, ASSURED OF LEGAL COMPETENCE OF "MEETING", AGREED THAT COUNTRY PROGRAMS COULD BE "APPROVED" IN JANUARY.

5. KUWAIT, SECONDED BY PAKISTAN, RESERVED RIGHT TO RAISE OTHER ISSUES AT JANUARY MEETING OR ADDRESS URGENT MATTERS STEMMING FROM UNGA OR ECOSOC ACTIONS WHICH COULD NOT AWAIT REGULAR SESSION.

6. DECISION, ADOPTED JUNE 30, DOES NOT SET DATE FOR 25TH SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD COUNCIL PRACTICE OF DECIDING DATES OF SUCCEEDING SESSION ON LAST DATE OF CURRENT MEETING. PRACTICE INTER ALIA PERMITS ENTERTAINMENT OF INVITATION TO MEET IN LDC CAPITAL WITH HOST PAYING COST DIFFERENCE FROM UN HEADQUARTERS. HOWEVER, IT IS COMMONLY ASSUMED THAT 25TH SESSION WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 1978.

7. TEXT OF DECISION POUCHED.SORENSEN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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